

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Appln. No.: _____
[Continuation of Application No.: 09/988,702
filed November 20, 2001]

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

After granting this application a filing date, please cancel claims 1-68, without prejudice or disclaimer.

69. (New) An insecticidal pellet consisting essentially of acephate and a polymeric processing aid, wherein said pellet has a moisture content of up to about 0.5% by weight and is chemically stable.

70. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein said acephate is present in an amount of about 97% by weight or more.

71. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 70, wherein said acephate is present in an amount of about 97 to about 99.5% by weight.

72. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein said pellet has a bulk density of about 36 to about 40 lbs/ft³.

73. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein the polymeric processing aid is present in amount of about 0.5 to about 3% by weight.

74. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein the pellet has a moisture content of up to about 0.3% by weight.

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75. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein the pellet contains no organic solvents.

76. (New) A chemically stable insecticidal pellet consisting essentially of acephate and a polymeric processing aid, the polymeric processing aid being present in an amount up to about 3% by weight, wherein said pellet has a moisture content of up to about 0.3% by weight and remains substantially free-flowing without caking or compaction under drum storage conditions.

77. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 76, wherein said acephate is present in an amount of about 97% by weight or more.

78. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 77, wherein said acephate is present in an amount of about 97 to about 99.5% by weight.

79. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 76, wherein said pellet has a bulk density of about 36 to about 40 lbs/ft³.

80. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 76, wherein the polymeric processing aid is present in amount of about 0.5 to about 3% by weight.

81. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 76, wherein the pellet contains no organic solvents.

82. (New) A chemically stable insecticidal pellet consisting essentially of acephate and up to about 3% by weight of a polymeric processing aid, wherein said pellet has a moisture content of up to about 0.3% by weight and remains substantially free-flowing without caking or

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compaction under drum storage conditions, and wherein said pellet has a bulk density of about 26 to about 31 lbs/ft³.

83. (New) A chemically stable insecticidal pellet consisting essentially of acephate and up to about 3% by weight of a polymeric processing aid, wherein said pellet has a moisture content of up to about 0.3% by weight and remains substantially free-flowing without caking or compaction under drum storage conditions, and wherein the polymeric processing aid is a vinylpyrrolidone-vinyl acetate copolymer.